
Resident Undergraduate Charges at California's Public Universities

A CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION FACTSHEET

CALIFORNIA charges its own residents less to attend its public colleges and universities than it charges nonresidents. It charges resident students systemwide fees as well as mandatory campus-based fees. These fees help support student services like counseling, health insurance, student union activities, student government, and recreation -- but it has sought to avoid charging them for the direct cost of instruction, which it charges as "tuition" to nonresident students.

Who are resident students?

The California State University determines the residency of its students according to the California statute, which defines resident students for tuition purposes as those who (1) have resided in California for at least one year and one day prior to enrolling in a college or university, and (2) intend to make California their home. A student may demonstrate the intent to reside in California through a number of means, including obtaining a California driver's license, owning or renting property in the state, registering a vehicle in California, and paying California personal income taxes.

The University of California has adopted stricter residency requirements for its undergraduate students. It requires that students be classified as residents of the state in which their parents reside as long as they are classified as dependent upon their parents according to financial aid definitions. This generally means that out-of-state undergraduate students cannot establish residency until they are 24 years of age.

What does the University of California charge resident students?

For 1997-98, the University is charging undergraduate California residents an average of \$4,212 in mandatory fees, including a \$3,799 systemwide fee which has not changed since 1994-95. This total is \$719 less than the average fee charged by the four public universities with which it compares itself on faculty

salaries:

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	\$6,253
University of Virginia	4,790
State University of New York, Buffalo	4,340
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	<u>4,340</u>
Average of the four universities	\$4,931

What does the California State University charge resident students?

The California State University is charging resident students an average of \$1,946 in mandatory fees, including a \$1,584 systemwide fee which has not changed since 1994-95. This total is lower than all of the 15 public universities with which it compares itself in terms of faculty salaries and \$1,547 lower than the average of all 15:

University of Connecticut	\$5,242
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark	5,151
University of Maryland, Baltimore County	4,570
George Mason University (Virginia)	4,296
State University of New York, Albany	4,173
Cleveland State University	4,010
Illinois State University	3,970
Wayne State University	3,796
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	3,327
Georgia State University	2,673
University of Texas, Arlington	2,547
North Carolina State University	2,270
University of Colorado, Denver	2,204
University of Nevada, Reno	2,109
Arizona State University	<u>2,060</u>
Average of the 15 universities	\$3,493

How have charges for California residents changed over the years?

The displays on the reverse side show the average annual resident undergraduate fees at the University of California and the California State University for fiscal years 1976-77 through 1997-98, expressed in actual and constant 1997-98 dollars.

*Total Annual Resident Undergraduate Student Fees, Expressed in Actual and Constant 1997-98 Dollars,
for Fiscal Years 1976-77 Through 1997-98*

University of California

California State University